

EXHIBIT A

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: SOCIAL MEDIA ADOLESCENT
ADDICTION/PERSONAL INJURY
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

This Document Relates to:
ALL ACTIONS

MDL No. 3047
Case No. 4:22-03047-YGR
**ANNOTATED AGENDA AND JOINT
STATEMENT FOR DECEMBER 13, 2023,
CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**
Judge: Hon. Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers
Magistrate Judge: Hon. Peter H. Kang

18 Pursuant to Case Management Order No. 1 (ECF 75) and Case Management Order No. 6
19 (ECF 451), the Parties submit this agenda and joint statement in advance of the December 13,
20 2023, Case Management Conference (“CMC”).

21 **I. Status of Individual Plaintiffs' Personal Injury Claims**

22 **Plaintiffs' Position:**

23 Plaintiffs reviewed the Court's Order on the first set of motions to dismiss and intend to
24 withdraw Claims 6 (Negligent Undertaking), 13 (Violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252A(f), and
25 1446A), and 15 (Violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2252B and 2258A) as to all Defendants, and Claims
26 12 (Violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2255 and 2252) and 14 (Violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2255 and
27 2252A(5)(b)) as to all Defendants other than the Meta Defendants, provided that (a) this
28 withdrawal is without prejudice; and (b) plaintiffs who have alleged these claims in their short

1 form complaints are provided a reasonable opportunity to amend their complaints to continue
 2 asserting these counts should they wish to do so.¹ Withdrawal in this manner is consistent with
 3 the Short Form Complaint (“SFC”) process, which expressly provides that individual plaintiffs
 4 may include in their SFCs claims and additional allegations that are not asserted in the Master
 5 Complaint. *See* SFC Implementation Order, Ex. A at 1 (ECF 177) (plaintiffs may include
 6 “additional Causes of Action and supporting allegations against Defendants, as set forth in
 7 paragraph 11 in additional sheets attached hereto”). Withdrawal in this manner also is appropriate
 8 because withdrawal of such claims with prejudice would require consent from each existing MDL
 9 Plaintiff that asserts such claims and any withdrawal with prejudice could not bind any future
 10 plaintiffs who file SFCs in the MDL.

11 **Defendants’ Position:**

12 Defendants agree with Plaintiffs that Counts 6, 12, 13, 14, and 15 should be withdrawn,
 13 but withdrawal should be with prejudice. Plaintiffs’ proposal to permit individual plaintiffs to
 14 simply re-assert the same claims in their Short-Form Complaints is inefficient and, particularly
 15 for the federal claims (Counts 12-15), may necessitate essentially identical motion to dismiss
 16 briefing at a different juncture. Further, the same authorities that warrant dismissal of Count 13
 17 as to all Defendants, *see, e.g., Doe #1 v. Twitter, Inc.*, 2023 WL 3220912, at *2 (9th Cir. May 3,
 18 2023), warrant dismissing Counts 12 and 14 as to Defendant Meta, *see, e.g., id.; see also Zhang v.*
 19 *Twitter Inc.*, 2023 WL 5493823, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 23, 2023).

20 Defendants further note that Plaintiffs first shared their proposal with Defendants on this
 21 topic at 7:49 p.m. PT the night before this CMC statement was due (long after the parties’ agreed-
 22 to exchange deadline).

23 **Current Status:**

24 Defendants have agreed to consent to the dismissal of Claims 6, 11 (Violations of 18
 25 U.S.C. §§ 1595 and 1591),² 13, and 15 as to all Defendants, and Claims 12 and 14 as to all

26
 27 ¹ Plaintiffs will remove these claims from the pleading at the time they file their amended Master
 28 Complaint. *See infra* § VII.

² Plaintiffs’ proposal to dismiss without prejudice Count 11 was inadvertently omitted from their
 December 6 CMC Statement.

1 Defendants other than the Meta Defendants without prejudice, in exchange for Plaintiffs'
 2 agreement to stipulate that Defendants may split their "Track 2" motion to dismiss into two
 3 motions to dismiss.³ Judge Gonzalez Rogers approved the Parties' proposed stipulated order
 4 effectuating this agreement [ECF No. 477], with modifications, at the December 13, 2023 CMC,
 5 and expect the Court to issue the modified order shortly.

6 The first motion to dismiss, which will be due next Friday, December 22 (extended from
 7 December 18), will cover the personal injury Plaintiffs' claims for negligence (Claim 5), loss of
 8 consortium (Claim 16), survival (Claim 17), and wrongful death (Claim 18), and Claims 12 and
 9 14 against the Meta Defendants only.

10 The second motion to dismiss will be due on January 12, 2024 and will address the claims
 11 voluntarily dismissed from the Master Complaint to the extent they are reasserted in any amended
 12 short form complaints on or before January 2, 2024. The briefing schedule on the second motion
 13 to dismiss will otherwise follow the schedule for Defendants' "Track 2" motion to dismiss, i.e.,
 14 Plaintiffs' opposition will be due February 5, 2024, and Defendants' reply will be due February
 15 26, 2024.

16 The pages previously allocated for "Track 2" briefing (60/60/30) will be split between
 17 these two motions to dismiss as follows: 35/35/17.5 for the motion to dismiss due December 22;
 18 and 25/25/12.5 for the motion to dismiss due January 12.

19 **II. Outstanding Coordination Order Disputes**

20 Following the November 16, 2023, CMC, the Parties, including the State Attorneys
 21 General, met and conferred further in efforts to develop a mutually agreeable coordination order.
 22 *See* CMO No. 6 (ECF 451) (ordering parties to further meet and confer). The Parties were unable
 23 to reach agreement. Plaintiffs' revised proposed coordination order, including input from the
 24 State Attorneys General, is attached as **Exhibit A** and Defendants' revised proposed coordination

25 ³ Judge Gonzalez Rogers previously organized briefing into "four tracks: 1) the state Attorneys
 26 General complaint, as well as Claims 7, 8 and 9 of the individual plaintiffs' Master Amended
 27 Complaint ("MAC"); 2) the remaining MAC claims, with the exception of the individual
 28 plaintiffs' negligence *per se* claim; 3) the forthcoming school district plaintiffs' master complaint;
 and 4) claims asserted against defendant Mark Zuckerberg in his individual capacity." ECF No.
 450.

1 order is attached as **Exhibit B**.

2 **Plaintiffs' Position:**

3 During the November CMC, Defendants requested further meet and confer to narrow the
 4 Parties' disputes regarding a coordination order, and represented that a sharp pen would be taken
 5 to their previously submitted version. That did not happen. Instead, Defendants have doubled
 6 down, making only superficial revisions to their prior proposal which do not narrow the core
 7 disputes. *See Exhibit C* (redline compare reflecting Defendants' revisions to their prior
 8 proposal). Plaintiffs again reject Defendants' proposed coordination order on the basis that it
 9 creates unworkable procedural hurdles, impedes other courts' authority to manage the cases
 10 before them, and dictates how the plaintiffs in other actions prosecute their cases.

11 **Provisions that create unworkable procedural hurdles for non-duplicative discovery**
 12 **(Defs' Proposed Order ¶¶ 13, 14, 19, 22).** Under Defendants' proposed order, if a Party in a
 13 Coordinated Action wants to propound *non-duplicative* discovery, it must first seek leave in the
 14 Coordinated Action and show (1) that it has reviewed the MDL discovery and determined the
 15 discovery it is seeking is needed for the issues unique to that case; (2) good cause why the
 16 discovery could not be taken in the MDL. *See* Ex. B, Defs' Proposed Order ¶ 14. This provision
 17 goes well beyond coordination because it limits how and when parties in a Coordinated Action
 18 may propound discovery that is not sought in the MDL. It also creates additional burden on the
 19 Coordination Action court to determine if the requesting party has demonstrated *good cause* to
 20 seek *non-duplicative* discovery. Such a requirement is in contravention to our adversarial system,
 21 is unworkable, and would result in delay.

22 Defendants include a similar provision with respect to depositions. *See* Ex. B, Defs'
 23 Proposed Order ¶ 19. Specifically, Defendants would require parties in a Coordinated Action to
 24 show good cause to the court presiding over the Coordinated Action why an MDL deponent could
 25 not have been questioned about issues *unique* to the Coordinated Action during the MDL
 26 deposition.⁴ Again, restrictions on non-duplicative discovery do not advance coordination or

27 ⁴ Plaintiffs do not oppose Defendants' requirement that a "noticing party shall, to the extent
 28 feasible, provide fourteen days' written notice to all counsel in the MDL, JCCP, and other
 Coordinated Actions." *Compare* Ex. B, Defs' Proposed Order ¶ 22, with Ex. A, Pls' Proposed

1 efficiency, but instead create unnecessary procedural hurdles and prohibit other parties from
 2 prosecuting or defending their cases as they see fit.

3 Defendants' proposal also complicates discovery access by Plaintiffs in the MDL. While
 4 Plaintiffs have no objection to provisions which clarify that plaintiffs in Coordinated Actions
 5 cannot automatically access discovery of MDL Defendants who they have not sued in the
 6 Coordinated Action, paragraphs 13 and 22 of Defendants' proposal would go much further and
 7 forbid Plaintiffs in the MDL from participating in depositions or receiving discovery in a
 8 Coordinated Action except as to a particular Plaintiff who has named the Defendant in the MDL.
 9 But in MDLs, Plaintiffs' leadership do not conduct liability discovery on behalf of any single
 10 Plaintiff, but for the common benefit of all. Defendants' proposed restrictions on who within the
 11 MDL is entitled to what discovery are thus nonsensical.

12 **Provisions that limit other courts' authority (Defs' Proposed Order ¶¶ 10, 11, 13, 25,
 13 26, 28, 29, 30).** Under Defendants' proposed order, coordination is not allowed unless the parties
 14 in the Coordination Action execute the Protective Order,⁵ the 502(d) Order, ESI Protocol, any
 15 preservation order(s), and all other discovery related order entered in the MDL (collectively, the
 16 "MDL Discovery Orders"). *See* Ex. B, Defs' Proposed Order ¶¶ 10, 11; *see also id.* ¶¶ 13, 25, 26
 17 (referencing the MDL Discovery Orders). Plaintiffs are amenable to a requirement that the
 18 parties in a Coordinated Action execute the MDL Protective Order *or* an equivalent protective
 19 order. But as already previewed, Judge Kuhl has indicated that early disclosure of experts is not
 20 allowed under California state law. *See* JCCP Minute Order at 3 (May 3, 2023) (ECF 267-3).
 21 Thus, should Section 7.6 of the Protective Order remain following resolution of Plaintiffs' Motion
 22 for Relief (ECF 303), it is unlikely such a requirement would be required in the JCCP, and thus a
 23 coordination order that requires execution of the MDL Protective Order would not have the
 24 support of the JCCP court or parties.

25 Likewise, a requirement that coordination would tie the Coordinated Actions to all other
 26 discovery-related orders ultimately entered in the MDL would strip away the Coordinated Action

27 Order ¶ 12.

28 ⁵ Although Judge Hixson entered a Protective Order in the MDL (ECF 290), Plaintiffs have
 challenged Section 7.6 of the order with respect to early expert disclosures.

1 court's authority to supervise discovery in its own jurisdiction under its own rules and procedures.
 2 Defendants' fear that Plaintiffs will seek multiple bites at the apple in attempts to end-run
 3 unfavorable rulings is misplaced and overblown. Plaintiffs have agreed to "coordinate discovery
 4 to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, avoid undue burden and expense, and promote the
 5 efficient and speedy resolution of the MDL, JCCP, and any other Coordinated Actions." *See Ex.*
 6 A, Pls' Proposed Order ¶ 9. Plaintiffs, moreover, are confident that the courts in the Coordinated
 7 Actions would quickly stamp out any discovery shenanigans should they arise.

8 Finally, Defendants continue to insist that the plaintiffs in a Coordinated Action present
 9 discovery disputes to the MDL Court in the first instance.⁶ *See Ex. B, Defs' Proposed Order*
 10 ¶¶ 28-30. As previously argued, that intrudes on the Coordinated Court's authority to hear
 11 discovery disputes in its own proceedings, and is arguably beyond the authority of the MDL
 12 Court to order. Judge Kuhl, for example, has noted that she intends to "closely supervise
 13 discovery" in the JCCP. *See JCCP Hr'g Tr. at 39:5-6 (Feb. 17, 2023) (ECF 267-6).*

14 **Provisions that restrict plaintiffs' ability to prosecute their case (Defs' Proposed**
 15 **Order ¶¶ 23).** Although Defendants rescinded their prior provision that the MDL would be
 16 deemed the "lead" case—which would prohibit any Coordinated Action from advancing
 17 discovery ahead of the MDL or setting a discovery schedule that was more expeditious than that
 18 of the MDL—paragraph 23 of Defendants' proposed order in effect does just this. Paragraph 23
 19 prohibits depositions of parties in the MDL to be taken in a Coordinated Action without showing
 20 good cause, including why the discovery sought cannot be obtained in the MDL. The named
 21 defendants in the currently-pending related actions are Parties to this MDL, so under Defendants'
 22 proposal, depositions could not be conducted in Coordinated Actions without showing good cause
 23 (presumably to the Coordinated Action court).

24 Paragraph 23 goes further by prohibiting discovery in Coordinated Actions if the MDL
 25 Court has ruled that the sought-after discovery is undiscoverable in the MDL. This paragraph
 26 severely restricts the ability of the plaintiffs in Coordinated Actions to prosecute their actions
 27

28 ⁶ Under Defendants' proposal, plaintiffs in a Coordinated Action would be permitted to raise
 discovery disputes directly with their court only by demonstrating "good cause" (¶ 29).

1 based on the claims and defenses in their cases, and would prevent a Coordinated Action from
 2 proceeding at its own pace. There are unique issues in the related actions, and there may be
 3 reasons why the parties in those cases wish to pursue discovery that has not been allowed in the
 4 MDL based on the claims and defenses asserted in each action. And should there be discovery
 5 allowed in a Coordinated Action that had not been allowed in the MDL, it is more efficient to
 6 address it when and if the situation arises, instead of by an order that restricts discovery from
 7 even advancing in a Coordinated Action.⁷

8 * * *

9 None of the coordination orders from other MDLs cited by Defendants support an
 10 elaborate and overreaching coordination order like the one Defendants propose. They are less
 11 restrictive than what Defendants propose here,⁸ most if not all were entered without opposition,
 12 and some, like the *Zimmer M/L Taper* MDL order, were largely not entered in any related state
 13 court cases (and did not involve a parallel state court consolidated action, like the JCCP here). It
 14 bears mentioning that the defendants in *Zimmer M/L Taper* attempted to use the coordination
 15 order as a shield from discovery or trial in the related state court actions, which required the MDL
 16 Court to issue a clarifying order the coordination order did “not automatically stay state court
 17 proceedings or trial” and left scheduling “to the judgement and discretion of the court in that
 18 Action”. *See Exhibit D*, Order No. 15 re the Joint Coordination Order, Dkt. 83. Moreover, even
 19 in the state court actions that did not formally adopt the coordination order entered in the MDL,
 20 the Parties still successfully informally coordinated discovery to avoid unnecessary duplication.
 21 In short, the coordination order became obsolete, which would likely happen here should the
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23
 24 ⁷ Similarly, to the extent a party in the Coordinated Action would like to seek discovery from an
 25 entity in the MDL that is *not* also named in a Coordinated Action, the parties in the Coordinated
 26 Action (in consultation with the entity) can address access to that discovery when and if it arises.
 27

28 ⁸ *See, e.g., In re Acetaminophen – ASD-ADHD Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 1:22-md-03043-DLC, Dkt.
 382 at ¶ 9 (S.D.N.Y.) (ECF 267-14) (permitting non-duplicative discovery in non-MDL cases); *In
 Re: Paraquat Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 3004, Case No. 3:21-md-03004-NJR, Dkt.
 462 at ¶ 9 (S.D. Ill. October 26, 2021) (ECF 267-15) (“the parties need not obtain leave of court
 to conduct non-duplicative discovery”); *In Re: 3M Combat Arms Earplug Products Liability
 Litigation*, MDL No. 2885, Case No. 3:19-md-02885-MCR-HTC, Dkt. 1162 at ¶ 11 (N.D. Fla.
 June 3, 2020) (ECF 267-16)(permitting non-duplicative discovery in non-MDL cases).

1 Court adopt Defendants' proposed order, and unnecessary to facilitate coordination.⁹

2 The purpose of a coordination order is to facilitate efficient discovery and reduce
3 duplicative efforts and expense across the jurisdictions. Plaintiffs' straightforward proposed
4 order will advance these goals while providing flexibility when and if nuanced discovery issues
5 arise.

6 Finally, following consultation with the State Attorneys General, Plaintiffs included a
7 section to protect counsel communications between Plaintiffs' counsel and Defendants' outside
8 counsel to facilitate coordination and cooperation between the joint prosecution and defense
9 teams. Defendants opposed inclusion of such a provision in a coordination order, and thus
10 Plaintiffs will seek to meet and confer with Defendants to seek an agreement for protected
11 communication via a separate stipulation, as was accomplished in the *Volkswagen* MDL before
12 Judge Breyer. *See In re: Volkswagen "Clean Diesel" Prod. Litig. Liab.* 3:15-md-02672-CRB,
13 Dkt. 1326 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 4, 2026), *available at*
14 https://www.cand.uscourts.gov/filelibrary/1720/Pretrial_Order_14.pdf.

15 **States' Position:**

16 The States believe there can be benefits from cooperation in related actions, particularly in
17 promoting efficiency. Therefore, should this Court decide to issue a coordination order, it should
18 allow courts and parties to cooperate and coordinate to the extent they consider appropriate.
19 Plaintiffs' proposed coordination order, which allows, but does not require, coordination on cross-
20 noticed depositions and the use of discovery material obtained in other cases, permits efficient
21 sharing of information while preserving sufficient flexibility for courts and parties. Defendants'
22 proposed order is inappropriate for the reasons outlined by Plaintiffs, including as applied to state
23 attorney general law enforcement actions pending in state courts.

24 As described by Plaintiffs, the States supported the inclusion of a provision to protect
25 counsel communications in the coordination order, and Defendants opposed such inclusion. The
26 States will join with Plaintiffs in seeking to meet and confer with Defendants on a separate

27 ⁹ Separate and apart from this coordination order subject to entry by courts with a related action,
28 similar to Judge Kuhl, the Court may also order that discovery requests served and responded to
in the JCCP will be treated as though served and responded to in the MDL.

1 stipulation for protected counsel communications.

2 **Defendants' Position:**

3 Consistent with this Court's guidance at the last CMC—and with Judge Kuhl's stated
 4 concerns about wanting to “coordinate discovery with the MDL,” *e.g.*, Nov. 7, 2023 CMC Tr.
 5 36:5-6¹⁰—Defendants have streamlined and revised their proposed Coordination Order, attached
 6 hereto as **Exhibit B**, down to those essential provisions that would provide parties with access to
 7 the same discovery and depositions conducted in the MDL and related actions, while preventing
 8 those parties from taking duplicative discovery and re-litigating discovery disputes across the
 9 different proceedings. As discussed further below, Defendants' proposed Coordination Order is
 10 consistent with coordination orders entered by numerous other MDL courts in similar
 11 circumstances. Without this type of standard coordination across related actions, the efficiency
 12 benefits that motivated the creation of this MDL will be lost: in addition to the MDL and JCCP
 13 proceedings, there are now eleven state AG suits and three related personal injury actions pending
 14 in other state courts across the country against the various MDL Defendants. Initial discovery
 15 requests have already been served against some of the Defendants in five of those cases, and the
 16 private Plaintiffs have informed Defendants that they intend to commence discovery.

17 All of Plaintiffs' arguments against Defendants' proposed Coordination Order, and
 18 particularly their argument that it would “impede[] other courts' authority to manage the cases
 19 before them,” rest on a fundamental misunderstanding of how Defendants' proposed
 20 Coordination Order would actually work and be implemented in related actions. Defendants
 21 address those arguments below before presenting the existing precedent supporting entry of their
 22 Coordination Order in these proceedings.

23 ***How Defendants' Proposed Coordination Order Would Work.*** Importantly, Defendants'
 24 proposed Coordination Order would initially govern only the MDL. Only *after* entry of that
 25 Order by this Court would Defendants then expect to present it to the other courts before which
 26 related actions are pending, *and those courts could then choose to enter the Order* to secure its

27
 28 ¹⁰ See also Nov. 7, 2023 CMC Tr. 36:5-6 (“[W]e still don't know how Judge Gonzalez Rogers is
 going to want to organize discovery and we don't want [discovery] to be repeated [in the
 JCCP].”).

1 benefits of: (1) streamlining overlapping discovery; (2) preventing unnecessary duplication of
 2 pretrial efforts; (3) conserving judicial and party resources; and (4) encouraging coordination
 3 among all present and future jurisdictions to ensure efficient litigation and to avoid inconsistent
 4 rulings. Defendants' proposed Coordination Order thus allows every court to preserve its own
 5 jurisdiction and to control its own docket, while having freedom to make any state-specific
 6 adjustments that may be needed.

7 Because the MDL was formed before the other related actions were filed and is
 8 proceeding in federal court, Defendants' proposed Coordination Order envisions that most
 9 generally applicable discovery will be conducted here (overseen by Magistrate Judge Kang) and
 10 that, for efficiency and consistency, most discovery disputes pertaining to that discovery will be
 11 addressed by Judge Kang in the first instance. (Defs. Coordination Order. at ¶ 28). However,
 12 contrary to Plaintiffs' assertion, Defendants' proposal accounts for instances where an issue may
 13 be uniquely discoverable in a coordinated action based on the claims and defenses asserted. If
 14 there is good cause to depart from conducting discovery or addressing disputes in the MDL in the
 15 first instance, Defendants' proposal would allow the discovery or dispute to be taken up in the
 16 related action in the first instance. (*Id.* at ¶ 29). It would also allow rulings made in the MDL to
 17 be revisited in the Coordinated Action "for good cause." (*Id.* ¶ 19).

18 ***Benefits of Defendants' Proposed Coordination Order.*** This centralized approach
 19 benefits everyone. For plaintiffs in related actions, it ensures that they are able to immediately
 20 access written, document, and deposition discovery taken across proceedings, without having to
 21 serve or negotiate new written discovery requests and notices of deposition. For Defendants, it
 22 ensures that core discovery takes place in a single forum—without having to negotiate separately
 23 in potentially dozens of different proceedings—and that witnesses are generally deposed only
 24 once. And for courts, it conserves judicial resources by ensuring that parties do not litigate the
 25 same discovery disputes in each proceeding.

26 Centralizing the discovery forum would not deprive litigants outside this MDL of the
 27 ability to take generally applicable discovery. *First*, parties named in related actions are invited
 28 to participate in discovery meet-and-confers. (*Id.* at ¶ 16). *Second*, parties named in related

1 actions are permitted to participate in any generally applicable depositions. (*Id.* at ¶ 22). *Third*,
 2 parties outside the MDL retain the ability to take non-duplicative generally applicable discovery
 3 (including deposition discovery), where such discovery is necessary to address issues unique to
 4 that related proceeding. (*Id.* at ¶¶ 14, 23). And to address the Court’s concern that counsel in
 5 related actions are fully apprised of what is happening in the MDL, Defendants have committed
 6 in their proposed Coordination Order to keeping plaintiffs in coordinated actions informed about
 7 discovery that has been served in the MDL.¹¹

8 ***Existing Precedent for Defendants’ Proposed Coordination Order.*** Coordination Orders
 9 are commonplace in MDLs proceeding in parallel with JCCPs and other related state-court
 10 proceedings, and Defendants’ proposed Coordination Order is consistent with those entered in
 11 other recent MDLs. *See, e.g., In re: Paraquat Prods. Liab. Litig.*, MDL No. 3004, No. 3:21-md-
 12 3004 (S.D. Ill.) (permitting non-duplicative discovery “relating solely to case-specific issues”); *In*
 13 *re: 3M Combat Arms Earplug Prods. Liab. Litig.*, MDL No. 2885, No. 3:19-md-2885 (N.D. Fla.)
 14 (requiring parties, before serving discovery in coordinated actions, to “submit requests . . . to
 15 MDL Lead Counsel for inclusion in the requests for documents, interrogatories, depositions on
 16 written questions, and requests for admission to be propounded in the MDL Proceeding”); *In re:*
 17 *Zimmer Prods. Liab. Litig.*, MDL No. 2859, No. 1:18-md-2859 (S.D.N.Y.).

18 Indeed, Defendants’ Coordination Order tracks many of the same concepts as these prior
 19 orders and, in particular, the recent MDL coordination order entered in *In re: Acetaminophen*
 20 (*APAP*), and in *In re: Zimmer*, including the same or similar provisions for the general application
 21 of coordinated discovery. *See In re: Acetaminophen*, MDL No. 3042, No. 1:22-md-3043, Dkt.
 22 No. 382 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 27, 2023) (“Order: Discovery Coordination”) (for example, allowing non-
 23 duplicative discovery only where “necessary to address issues unique to the Coordinated
 24 Action”); *In re: Zimmer*, MDL No. 2859, No. 1:18-md-2859, Dkt. No. 74 (S.D.N.Y. Feb. 14,
 25

26 ¹¹ Defendants’ proposed Coordination Order also ensures that in the event that a Plaintiff in a
 27 Coordinated Action has sued only one or some MDL Defendants in the Coordinated Action, such
 28 Plaintiff would be entitled to receive Generally Applicable Discovery of the Defendant(s) only
 named in such Coordinated Action. (*Id.* at ¶ 11). For example, the State AGs who have only
 sued Meta outside of this MDL would not have access to the other Defendants’ depositions,
 written discovery, and document productions made in the MDL.

1 2019) (“Joint Coordination Order”).¹²

2 In contrast to Defendants, Plaintiffs have shared no such precedent for their proposed
 3 order, and their proposal continues to lack necessary substantive provisions facilitating
 4 coordination that are standard features of these types of orders. Plaintiffs’ proposal would
 5 obligate Defendants to make all discovery available to all plaintiffs (both in and outside the
 6 MDL), while simultaneously allowing the non-MDL Plaintiffs to pursue even more discovery
 7 outside the MDL without any restrictions whatsoever.

8 For instance, MDL leadership counsel, some of whom also represent plaintiffs in the
 9 JCCP, could circumvent Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30’s time limits on depositions simply
 10 by re-noticing depositions of the same witnesses in the JCCP and covering purported “non-
 11 duplicative” topics.¹³ Plaintiffs’ proposal would even allow non-MDL plaintiffs (including those
 12 represented by MDL leadership counsel) to circumvent MDL discovery rulings in different
 13 forums—an inefficient, unfairly prejudicial result, and the precise result coordination orders are
 14 intended to avoid. *See In re: Zimmer*, MDL No. 2859, No. 1:18-md-2859, Dkt. No. 74, at 2
 15 (S.D.N.Y. Feb. 14, 2019) (“Joint Coordination Order”) (finding that coordination of discovery
 16 “will further the just and efficient disposition of each proceeding” and “prevent duplication of
 17 discovery and undue burden on courts, parties, and nonparties, and produce substantial savings in
 18 judicial resources.”).

19 Plaintiffs’ assurances that they have successfully coordinated discovery among themselves
 20 – while discovery was stayed and none was taken – are insufficient to forestall an order that has
 21 become routine in litigations with parallel MDL and state court proceedings.

22 * * *

23 _____
 24 ¹² Contrary to Plaintiffs’ suggestion, the coordination order in *Zimmer* was utilized in related
 25 proceedings. Less than two months after entry of the coordination order in the MDL, the parties
 had agreed to coordination in four out of the seventeen related state-court actions and were
 optimistic that it would be entered in at least five others. Dkt. #105.

26 ¹³ Plaintiffs purport to speak on behalf of Judge Kuhl in stating that Defendants’ proposal would
 27 not have “the support of the JCCP court.” In so doing, they misrepresent the JCCP Court’s
 “tentative” remarks at a case management conference, before she expressly invited briefing from
 the parties that has not yet occurred. *See* May 3 JCCP Tr. (ECF #303 Ex. A), at 8:2–8 (“My
 28 view, without conducting [] separate research for this case, is that I don’t think California law
 allows the identity of a non-designated expert to be required to be disclosed to a party opponent.
 So depending on what is done in the federal court, this issue will need to be briefed here.”).

1 For all of these reasons, Defendants respectfully request that this Court enter Defendants'
 2 proposed Coordination Order.

3 **Current Status**

4 At a case management conference held last Thursday, December 7 in the JCCP, the JCCP
 5 Court indicated that it had discussed the status of Defendant discovery with Judge Gonzalez
 6 Rogers, and worked out an allocation of responsibilities, pursuant to which the MDL Court will
 7 “primarily handle discovery” and the JCCP Court will focus “on the plaintiff-specific issues.”
 8 *See* 12/7/23 JCCP CMC Tr. 7:18-19, 13:22-25. In light of that allocation, the Parties agreed that
 9 their Coordination Order proposals no longer needed to be addressed at the December 13 CMC,
 10 and were withdrawn (at ECF No. 476), without prejudice to renewing those order(s) or modified
 11 order(s) down the road. The Parties will meet and confer as necessary and appropriate to
 12 coordinate these proceedings with related cases pending in state courts, and to the extent needed
 13 will return to the Court for guidance on such coordination as appropriate.

14 **III. Additional Productions**

15 Since the issuance of Discovery Order No. 1 (ECF 125), the Meta and TikTok Defendants
 16 made additional productions in response to various state investigations.¹⁴ Plaintiffs requested that
 17 Defendants update their prior productions made in this litigation with the additional material
 18 produced in connection with the state investigations. *See* Joint Statement, at § 5 (ECF 417)
 19 (outlining Plaintiffs’ request). Both the Meta and TikTok Defendants have agreed to supplement
 20 their prior productions of documents in accordance with Discovery Order No. 1.

21 **IV. CSAM Order**

22 Pursuant to the Court’s Case Management Order No. 6 (ECF 451), the Parties filed a
 23 Proposed Order Governing Preservation of CSAM (“Proposed CSAM Preservation Order”) on
 24 December 1, 2023 for evaluation and entry by Magistrate Judge Peter H. Kang, and which
 25 remains pending. *See* ECF 461. The Proposed CSAM Preservation Order is identical to the
 26 version entered by the Honorable Carolyn B. Kuhl on July 31, 2023 in the JCCP.

27

28 ¹⁴ The YouTube and Snap Defendants have not made any additional productions.

1 Concurrent with that submission, the Meta Defendants filed an Administrative Motion to File
 2 Under Seal an unredacted version of the Proposed CSAM Preservation Order (ECF 462), and an
 3 Omnibus Sealing Stipulation reflecting a stipulation of the Meta Defendants and Plaintiffs to file
 4 the unredacted version under seal (ECF 463).¹⁵

5 **Current Status**

6 On December 12, 2023, this Court entered the Parties' proposed Order Governing
 7 Preservation of CSAM.

8 **V. Plaintiff Fact Sheet and Implementation Order**

9 The Parties agree that the Plaintiff Fact Sheet and applicable Appendices and
 10 Authorizations that were negotiated and entered in the JCCP for the personal injury matters
 11 should be implemented in the MDL. The Parties also agree that the related User Account
 12 Identification Form and User Account Confirmation and Consent Form should be entered in the
 13 MDL in substantially the same form as entered in the JCCP. The latter set of forms provide a
 14 process by which (1) Plaintiffs will provide User Account Preservation Forms containing
 15 identifying information necessary for Defendants to identify and preserve a Plaintiff's user
 16 accounts; (2) Defendants will inform each Plaintiff-user of user accounts that the Defendant has
 17 reason to believe are or were registered to the Plaintiff based on the information provided by each
 18 Plaintiff in the Preservation Form and Defendant's reasonable investigation; (3) Plaintiffs will
 19 confirm which of these accounts belong to but are currently inaccessible to them, and provide
 20 written consent to disclosure of information associated with those confirmed but inaccessible
 21 accounts; and (4) for each confirmed but inaccessible account, Defendants will provide a
 22 download of the data from that account substantially similar to that available using the public
 23 tools provided by each Defendant. The Parties expect all of these forms to be finalized in the
 24 JCCP imminently and thereafter expect to propose their implementation in the MDL.

25 **Current Status**

26 The JCCP Court has resolved the parties' one outstanding dispute on the proposed User
 27 Account Information Order, and the parties have now submitted a final proposed User Account

28 ¹⁵ Judge Kuhl granted an identical sealing request by the Meta Defendants in the JCCP.

1 Information Order, PFS implementation order, and related forms for entry by the JCCP Court.
 2 The MDL Parties intend to submit those proposed orders and forms for entry by this Court
 3 (conformed as appropriate for the MDL) following entry by the JCCP Court.¹⁶

4 **VI. School Districts' Short Form Complaint and Implementation Order Schedule**

5 The Parties have agreed to the following schedule with respect to the School Districts'
 6 short form complaint and implementation order subject to the Court's approval:

Date	Event
December 18, 2023	Plaintiffs file their Master Complaint
December 21, 2023	Plaintiffs provide Defendants with a proposed Short Form Complaint ("SFC") and SFC Implementation Order ("SFC Order")
January 9, 2024	Parties file a joint proposed SFC Order and SFC, or submit letter briefs no longer than 5 pages double-spaced with their respective positions on disputed issues
January 16, 2024	[Assumed date of entry of SFC Order]
January 30, 2024 (or 14 days after entry of SFC Order, whichever is later)	Plaintiffs with complaints filed by the date of the SFC Order file SFCs
February 5, 2024	Defendants file Motion to Dismiss
March 4, 2024	Plaintiffs file opposition to Motion to Dismiss
March 25, 2024	Defendants file reply brief

22 **VII. Amended Personal Injury Master Complaint as to Allegations Against Meta**

23 Plaintiffs propose to amend the existing Master Complaint to add a single new paragraph
 24 incorporating by reference certain of the newly unsealed paragraphs of the State Attorneys
 25 General's Complaint against Meta, which Plaintiffs have identified to Meta. Meta consents to
 26

27 ¹⁶ As separately noted in ECF 471, for those Snap accounts that have been inadvertently deleted,
 28 the parties are working through an addendum process for providing account information to
 Plaintiffs.

1 the amendment as proposed. The States do no object to Plaintiffs' proposed amendment of the
 2 Master Complaint.

3 **Current Status:**

4 On December 12, 2023, Plaintiffs proposed further amending the existing Master
 5 Complaint to incorporate by reference certain paragraphs of a complaint recently filed against
 6 Meta by the New Mexico Attorney General. The Parties are meeting and conferring about which
 7 paragraphs shall be so incorporated. In the meantime, Judge Gonzalez Rogers has approved the
 8 Parties' agreement, reflected in their proposed stipulated order [ECF No. 477], that Plaintiffs shall
 9 file their Second Amended Master Complaint incorporating by reference any allegations from
 10 State Attorneys General complaints and withdrawing the Counts discussed in Section I, *supra*, by
 11 Friday, December 15, 2023. Judge Gonzalez Rogers also approved the agreement of the
 12 Individual Plaintiffs and Defendants, presented at the December 13 CMC, that Defendants'
 13 deadline to file their "Track 1," "Track 2," and "Track 4" motions to dismiss shall be extended
 14 from December 18, 2023 to December 22, 2023, to allow time for Defendants to address any new
 15 allegations incorporated by reference in Plaintiffs' Second Amended Master Complaint.
 16 Plaintiffs and the TikTok Defendants are also meeting and conferring about incorporating by
 17 reference to Plaintiffs' Second Amended Master Complaint certain paragraphs of the complaint
 18 filed against TikTok by the Utah Attorney General in the Third Judicial District for Salt Lake
 19 County, Utah.

20 **VIII. Defendants' Proposal for an Order Prioritizing Resolution of General Causation**

21 **Defendants' and Plaintiffs' Position:**

22 Defendants intend to propose that the Court enter at the January 2024 CMC an order that
 23 prioritizes general causation for earlier resolution. Plaintiffs intend to oppose this proposal.
 24 Plaintiffs and Defendants have agreed, subject to the Court's guidance, to address this issue in
 25 simultaneous letter briefing due January 15, 2024, so that it may be addressed at the January
 26 CMC.

27 **States' Position:**

28 The States were not involved in the agreement between Plaintiffs and Defendants, and

1 they reserve the right to respond to Plaintiffs' and Defendants' simultaneous letter briefing, to the
 2 extent that briefing may implicate the States' claims.

3 **Current Status:**

4 At the December 13 CMC, Judge Gonzalez Rogers ordered the Individual Plaintiffs and
 5 Defendants to file simultaneous five-page single-spaced briefs on Defendants' proposal by
 6 January 15, 2023, with two-page single-spaced rebuttal briefs due by January 19, 2023. The State
 7 AGs will review the opening briefs and inform the Court at the January 26, 2023, Case
 8 Management Conference if they feel that they need to file a brief as well. Judge Gonzalez Roger
 9 will endeavor to hear argument on the briefing at the January 26, 2023 Case Management
 10 Conference, but may defer ruling until the February 2023 Case Management Conference.

11 **IX. Update to the Court on Florida's Role With Respect to the States**

12 Florida is participating with the 33 states in the State AG leadership structure as a State
 13 steering committee member and is coordinating with the states on all matters relating to pretrial
 14 proceedings in this action.

15 DATED: December 6, 2023

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17 Respectfully submitted,

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1 **ATTESTATION**

2 I, Lexi J. Hazam, hereby attest, pursuant to N.D. Cal. Civil L.R. 5-1, that the concurrence
3 to the filing of this document has been obtained from each signatory hereto.

4 **DATED:** December 14, 2023

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